



# The ISC Newsletter

International Society of Cryptozoology

Winter 1989  
Vol. 8, No. 4

## Editor

J. Richard Greenwell

The ISC Newsletter is an official publication of the International Society of Cryptozoology, and is published for Society members and institutional subscribers. Membership is \$30 annually; institutional subscriptions are \$45. Membership and subscription inquiries and correspondence, should be addressed to ISC, P. O. Box 43070, Tucson, AZ 85733, USA; Tel. (602) 884-8369.

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Society of Cryptozoology

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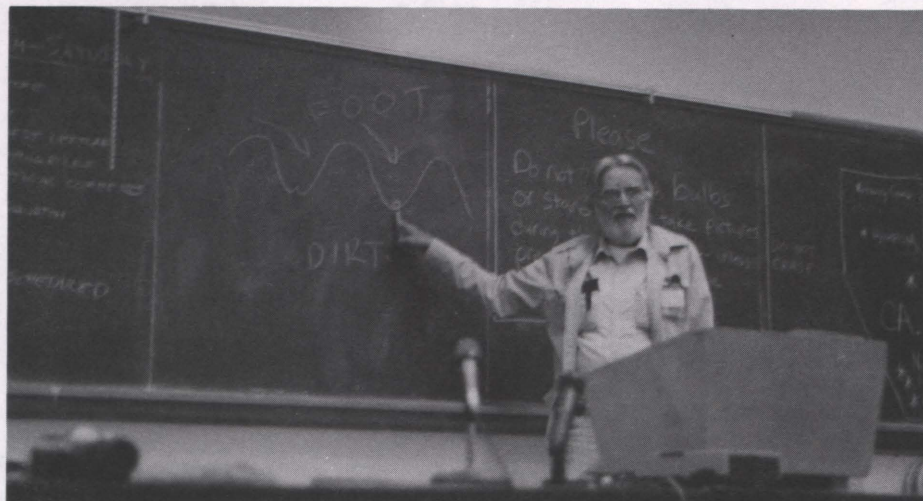
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ISSN 0741-5362

## PULLMAN SYMPOSIUM REVIEWS SASQUATCH EVIDENCE



Grover S. Krantz discussing technical point concerning alleged Sasquatch footprints at the Society's Eighth Annual Membership Meeting held in Pullman, Washington, on June 24-25, 1989. The meeting was dedicated to a symposium on the Sasquatch question, and was hosted by Dr. Krantz and his Department of Anthropology at Washington State University.

The Eighth Annual Membership Meeting of the Society was held on June 24-25, 1989, at Washington State University, in Pullman, hosted by the Department of Anthropology. The meeting was dedicated to a symposium on the controversial Sasquatch (Big-foot), and included presentations by 16 speakers and a panel debate.

The Board's decision to sponsor a conference on this topic followed the Society's successful 1987 symposium in Edinburgh, Scotland, on the Loch Ness Monster, co-sponsored by the Society for the History of Natural History. Also, it had been over a decade since a scientific forum had addressed the Sasquatch question, the previous one being the 1978 Vancouver conference "Sasquatch and Similar Phenomena," sponsored by the Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia.

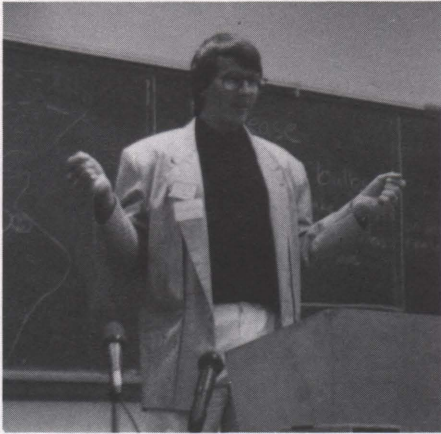
The new symposium was titled "Sasquatch Evidence: Scientific and Social Implications," and was organized by Grover S. Krantz, a Washington State Uni-

versity physical anthropologist who serves on the ISC Board of Directors; Vladimir Markotic, an archaeologist at Canada's University of Calgary; and ISC Secretary J. Richard Greenwell. Dr. Krantz, the principal Sasquatch investigator within the scientific community, also chaired the symposium. As usual with ISC meetings, the event was open to the public, and no registration or entrance fees were charged.

Following the customary pre-meeting Social Hour for ISC members only, Dr. Krantz gave the welcoming remarks. This was followed by Comments from the Host, prepared by Anthropology Department chairman Geoffrey L. Gamble.

Unfortunately, Dr. Gamble had to be out of town at the time, so his remarks, titled "Academic Problems with Anomalous Research," were read by Don Tyler, a physical anthropologist at the University of Idaho, in nearby Moscow--who also threw in a few comments of his own. In summary, Dr. Gamble attempted to outline





Don Tyler

some of the problems faced by administrators when faculty wish to pursue legitimate research in highly controversial or questionable areas.

He gave two recent examples, one being the claimed results of cold fusion in Utah, and the other the validity of supposed genetic language. Dr. Gamble concluded that a department head like himself must balance the academic freedom of faculty to investigate new and controversial areas of inquiry with the need to avoid situations that could damage an institution's ability to conduct quality research and teaching.

This was followed by a Special Guest Lecture by John Green, of Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia, who spoke on "Sasquatch: An Historical Overview." Mr. Green, considered the overall leading authority on the Sasquatch (see Interview, Newsletter, Summer, 1989), provided a concise historical summary of significant Sasquatch events and investigations, from ethnographic/historical sources to the present day. Based on all the evidence, he is convinced that a large primate, still unrecognized by zoology, inhabits many parts of North America.

Before the formal presentations began, Dr. Krantz outlined the Symposium Procedure and Rules of Order, indicating the

limits of discussion which would be accepted by the chair. He stated that "the presentations, as well as public participation, must be oriented toward the scientific aspect of our topic area. Any considerations of paranormal phenomena that are outside the range of current science may be of interest, but they are not part of cryptozoology and are not appropriate at this meeting."

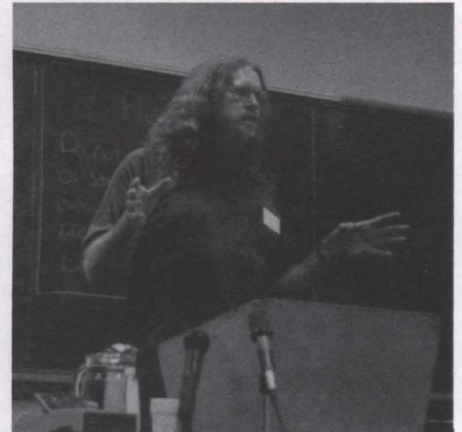
The first speaker was Dr. Krantz himself, who briefly discussed "Some Comments on Recent Critics of Dermal Ridge Evidence." Dr. Krantz was not originally scheduled as a speaker, but he agreed to make a presentation when three other scheduled speakers (Ohio State University physical anthropologist Frank E. Poirier and Soviet investigators Dmitri Bayanov and Igor Bourtsev) were unable to attend, and some readjustments had to be made.

His presentation reviewed and attempted to refute some of the criticisms which had recently been aimed at him in The Skeptical Inquirer concerning the dermatoglyphic evidence on the Walla Walla footprint casts (see Newsletter, Autumn, 1982).

This was followed by Danny Perez, a Sasquatch investigator from Norwalk, California, whose presentation was titled "Sasquatch: Extraordinary Claims Require Extraordinary Proof." Mr. Perez reviewed the different kinds of evidence produced to date, and discussed his own fieldwork, as well as a number of other subjects, presenting a wide variety of audiovisuals. Many attendees felt his presentation had actually little to do with the title of the talk.

Following lunch, Bruce R. Davis, an investigator from Archer, Florida, spoke on "The Twisted Tree: Additional Tangible Evidence for the Existence of Bigfoot, With an Overview of Bigfoot in Florida." Mr. Davis reviewed his own work, describ-

ing the twisted condition of a 5-inch-thick turkey oak tree found near supposed Bigfoot activity. Such tree-twisting, it was proposed, would require tremendous strength, which no known animal--or human--could perform, and no evidence of mechanical intervention could be found.



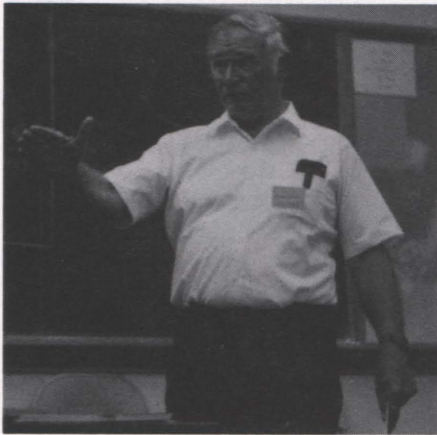
Bruce R. Davis

Mr. Davis also summarized his findings of Bigfoot in Florida, such as possible range and habitat, and social and ecological implications if the animal is proven to exist. In some parts of Florida, the supposed creature falls under the label of Skunk Ape.

The next speaker was Jack Laperitis, whose talk was titled "A Sasquatch Ethos: The Consistent Difficulties Documenting Evidence." Mr. Laperitis is controversial for his belief in the psychic or paranormal nature of Sasquatch, but his presentation--which was prefaced by a loud protest from long-time Sasquatch investigator Rene Dahinden--avoided direct mention of the paranormal, which was prohibited by the Symposium's ground rules.

Mr. Laperitis reviewed various categories of Sasquatch evidence, one category being the peculiar non-zoological incidents he and others have reportedly personally experienced, but which he was not at liberty to discuss.





James Hewkin

Following the afternoon coffee break, wildlife biologist James Hewkin spoke on "Investigating Sasquatch Evidence and Problems Distinguishing It." Now retired from the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department, Mr. Hewkin suggested that Sasquatch evidence may be observed and studied by zoologists in the field once certain discreet traits and patterns are recognized.

Based on 16 years of fieldwork, Mr. Hewkin believes that he can identify Sasquatch hole-digging in rock slides to obtain rodents and the tearing apart of logs to obtain grubs, and that he can distinguish these from the activities of other, known wildlife. He is convinced that a large, bipedal primate does, in fact, inhabit at least the Pacific Northwest.

The next speaker was Lonnie Somer, an anthropology graduate student at Washington State University, who discussed "Morphological Analysis of Possible Sasquatch Hair Recovered from the Blue Mountains of Washington State." Mr. Somer had analyzed several hairs found in association with supposed Sasquatch activity; specifically, they had been recovered from small trees which had had their tops snapped off, supposedly by a Sasquatch.

Mr. Somer planned to compare the hairs with primate, bear, horse, and dog hairs. However,

the hairs were found to be synthetic fibers, indicating that hoaxing was somehow involved.

Tom Steenburg, from Calgary, spoke next on "Researching the Sasquatch in Alberta." His short and businesslike presentation reviewed Sasquatch evidence in that Canadian province, pointing out that information has only recently begun to emerge, as local citizens are not very cognizant of the supposed animal. He and Dr. Markotic hope to uncover new evidence in Alberta as their local investigations continue.

The last speaker of the day was John Green, who had given the introductory Special Guest Lecture. This time, he spoke on "The Case for a Legal Inquiry into the Sasquatch Evidence," proposing that, as scientists have essentially ignored Sasquatch reports for over 30 years, attempts to interest lawyers might prove more effective. While scientists are uncomfortable dealing with eyewitness testimony, he stated, lawyers are not, and, in fact, they deal with it professionally on a continual basis and take it very seriously.

Mr. Green also pointed out that most politicians are lawyers, making the latter profession far more powerful socially than that of the scientist. He thus proposed working through lawyer-politicians to establish either a Canadian or American --or preferably a binational-- commission or committee of inquiry which would examine Sasquatch evidence and hear testimony, and then submit its findings and recommendations to a government or legislature. Such a move, he proposed, could eventually result in funding to scientists for serious Sasquatch research.

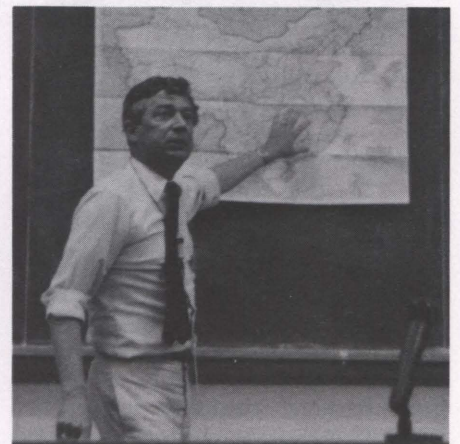
After another members-only Social Hour on the second morning, the symposium continued with a presentation by Twinsburg, Ohio, investigator Mark

Francis titled "The Significance of the Zoological Classification of a Sasquatch: Scientific, Philosophical, and Sociological Relevance." Mr. Francis reviewed some aspects of primate evolution, arriving at Gigantopithecus as the most likely candidate for the Sasquatch, pointing out that its discovery would probably open up new avenues of research in psychology and biomedicine.

Mr. Francis also predicted that such a discovery would prompt large zoos and circuses to acquire specimens for commercial purposes, and that fear of encountering the creature would result in a dramatic reduction of hunting and other outdoor activities in known Sasquatch areas.

Baltimore anthropologist R. Pennington Smith was the next speaker; his paper was titled "Diffusion of a Large Bipedal Hominoid in Asia and North America During the Pleistocene and After." He made a case for a large, bipedal, fossil primate, probably Gigantopithecus, evolving in south central Asia and surviving in Asia and in North America-- which it reached by crossing the Bering land bridge--to the present time.

Dr. Smith reviewed the various "wildman" names reported from different parts of China and southeast Asia, proposing that one unknown primate is

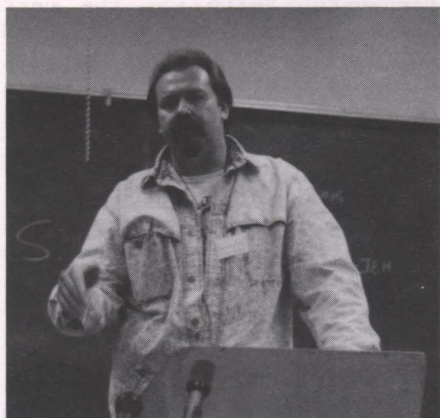


R. Pennington Smith



responsible for all of them, although local variations of the animal, particularly in North America, may represent subspecies.

The next talk, on the famous Minnesota Iceman, was by Milwaukee herpetologist Terry Cullen, and it aroused considerable interest and discussion. Dr. Cullen related how, while a student at the University of Minnesota in the late 1960's, he studied the Iceman exhibit at a local fair on a number of different occasions. He was forbidden to take photos, but the specimen aroused his interest enough to pursue the matter further, and it was he who brought the exhibit to the attention of Ivan T. Sanderson, who then went to Minnesota with Bernard Heuvelmans to inspect it.



Terry Cullen

In his talk, titled, "The Iceman: The Original Perspective," Dr. Cullen stated that his view of the specimen was much clearer than that obtained by Mr. Sanderson and Dr. Heuvelmans, as, by the time they arrived to examine it, much of the ice had frosted over, resulting in visual interference and distortion. Dr. Cullen also stated that he was able to observe minuscule features which convinced him that it was, in fact, a biological specimen and not a fabricated model, although the "Iceman" that was exhibited soon afterwards--and many times since, even into the 1980's--was

unquestionably a model.

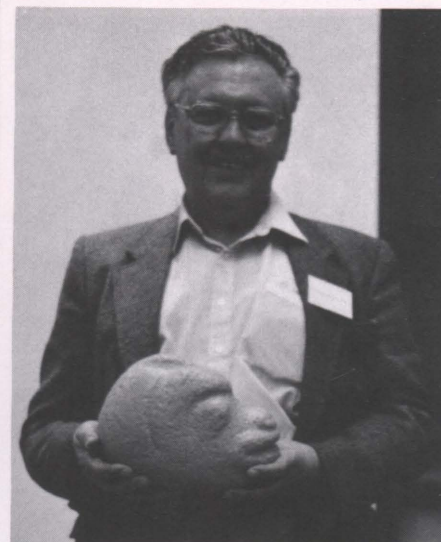
The next talk was by Robert Hutchison, a Canadian resident of Leysin, Switzerland, who spoke on "Searching for the Yeti in the Khumbu Region of Nepal." In a highly illustrated talk (which had to be completed in the evening due to time constraints), Mr. Hutchison reviewed the results of his recent Himalayan expedition in search of the Yeti. In November, 1987, at an altitude of about 16,700 feet, he and two Sherpas found and photographed supposed Yeti tracks west of Ngozumba Glacier.

Yeti-like tracks were also found heading towards a forest 12 miles south of Donag in January of 1988. No sightings were made during the expedition, but Hutchison expressed his conviction that the animal exists, and he believes he found evidence for six pairs of Yetis in the area. Mr. Hutchison has completed a book on his expedition, which will be published soon.

The next speaker was Vladimir Markotic, who shifted gears by speaking on "Some Stone Figures and Rock Engravings in the New and Old Worlds." Dr. Markotic provided the audience with a highly interesting review of stone figures and engravings which bear striking similarities to ape forms. He proposed that such aboriginal depictions originating from areas where primates are not known to have existed in recent times may be of Sasquatch or similar "wildmen."

The new evidence he has been examining comes from the Columbia River area of the Pacific Northwest (stone figures), the Amur Valley of Siberia (rock engravings), and a depiction of a Mayan god. His illustrated talk may eventually form the basis for an article in Cryptozoology.

The last speaker of the symposium was Paul Freeman, who gained fame in 1982 when he



Vladimir Markotic

claimed to have seen a Sasquatch, and when associated footprint casts were found to show dermal ridges--as seen on human fingerprints. In his talk, titled "Bigfoot in the Blue Mountains," Mr. Freeman discussed his continued fieldwork attempting to prove that Sasquatch exists. He would be willing to shoot an individual if necessary, he stated. Among the evidence he presented were photographs taken by his son Duane in October of 1988, as well as twisted tree limbs.

Mr. Freeman has been accused by some investigators of hoaxing the 1982 Walla Walla evidence, and other evidence produced in the Blue Mountains since then. He maintained that his evidence is authentic. His talk was certainly one of the most controversial presentations at the Symposium.

After a coffee break, the panel debate was called to order. Titled "What Would Happen if Definite Evidence is Found?," the panel was moderated by Dr. Markotic, and included Mr. Green, Mr. Greenwell, Leroy Kinnie (a Spokane lawyer), Mark Sauter (a Seattle journalist), and Dr. Tyler. Each panel member made a brief opening statement, and this was followed by questions from the floor.



The panel did address some pertinent questions, such as the legal and moral issues involved if Sasquatch were proven to exist; however, the objective tone of the debate degenerated as an increasing number of questions--or sometimes speeches--reflected the strong negative opinions held by some Sasquatch investigators concerning science and scientists, particularly anthropologists.

As most of the anthropologists who--because of their previous interest in the subject--had been invited to participate had declined the invitations or failed to respond, there was a lower than expected academic representation. Consequently, the symposium was dominated by the lay investigators,

many of whom are not Society members--and often hold deep resentments against the Society and the world of science in general. In fact, a show of hands indicated that only about 60 percent of those attending the ISC Symposium were actually members.

The resulting proceedings could thus be described as "colorful," as different factions became entangled in disputes and/or vied for attention. In a number of ways, therefore, the Symposium was somewhat different from previous Society meetings, but this was not altogether unexpected. The field of Sasquatchery or Bigfootery (or Bigfootology?) is known for the controversial personalities it has attracted, and, as ISC Board

member Forrest Wood once wrote in a book review, "is characterized by much bickering, feuding, and backbiting."

When Board members evaluated the merits of holding such a symposium, they (including Grover Krantz) realized that it probably could not be held without at least some incidents or disruptions. It was felt, however, that the topic represented a legitimate scientific problem, one that the Society should not be afraid to address.

In retrospect, the Society fulfilled its responsibility in providing a forum for discussion of the topic. What benefits may ultimately derive from it will be for future scholars to evaluate. □

## T.V. SHOW LEADS TO REPTILE DISCOVERY

This story has a very mundane beginning - like many other events in the history of natural history. It begins in 1985, when a German zoologist named Wolfgang Bohme sat down to enjoy a ZDF television documentary on the Middle Eastern country of North Yemen.

Bohme did enjoy the program, but the thing that really made him sit up was a segment which showed a large monitor lizard about to climb a tree. It so happens that Bohme, of the Alexander Koenig Zoological Research Institute and Museum in Bonn--and an ISC member--is an expert on monitor lizards, and he knew that the desert monitor of Arabia, Varanus griseus, which had never before been reported in Yemen itself--no monitors had--was unique in being a poor climber. Furthermore, the lizard looked different, appearing more like the African savannah monitor, Varanus exanthematicus.

Curious, Bohme was able to obtain a video copy of the program, which had been filmed

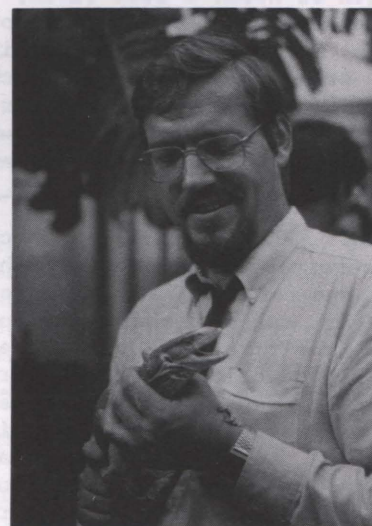
in Yemen the year before by Wieland Lippoldmuller. The reptile had been filmed in a wadi 6 miles north of the village of As Sokhna, in the Tihamah ("hot earth") Desert--on the Arabian coast of the Red Sea.

He concluded that the monitor so casually depicted on television had to be a new species. Indeed, its nickname could be "the T.V. monitor." Soon afterwards, in January, 1986, two German herpetological colleagues of Dr. Bohme, graduate students Johannes Peter Fritz and Felix Schutte, undertook a collecting expedition to Yemen, with a search for the mystery monitor becoming one of the priorities. Fritz and Schutte underwent many hardships for several months trying to locate the animals in the As Sokhna region--unsuccessfully.

Shortly afterwards, American monitor lizard expert Walter Auffenburg, of the University of Florida, visited Bonn, and, upon being shown the film footage by Bohme, voiced the opinion that

the animal was, in fact, a new species.

The hunt was then taken up by Beat Schatti, a Swiss herpetologist at the Zoological Museum in Zurich, who departed for Yemen with a colleague on a snake-collecting expedition. He



Wolfgang Bohme with his newly discovered monitor lizard from Yemen. The reptile was first seen by chance on a television documentary, and field searches eventually led to its discovery. (Robert G. Sprackland.)





The new "T.V. monitor." The ingredients of the discovery were a T.V. show, a keen eye, "and brilliant zoological detective work." (Robert G. Sprackland.)

agreed to visit the As Sokhna area as part of their fieldwork, in the hope of finally locating the mystery reptiles. They were successful. Soon after arriving in the area, in October, 1986, they observed a colony of the large lizards. With some difficulty, eight were eventually captured alive; six of these were later housed in the Zurich Zoo to hopefully establish a breeding colony, and two more were sent to Dr. Bohme in Bonn.

As a result of the sensation caused in Bonn and Zurich by the discovery and capture of these living specimens--which had a length of about 4 feet (1.2m)--Horst Kopp, a German expert on Yemen, informed Dr. Bohme of his own, previous sightings of such monitors in North Yemen. Dr.

Kopp provided photographs which clearly demonstrated that he had, in fact, observed such reptiles in a different location, thus confirming that the animal inhabits more than one locality. Furthermore, it demonstrated, once again, a recurring cryptozoological theme: that species unknown to science may be casually--and repeatedly--seen by observers who are quite unaware that such animals are supposed to be "unknown."

Monitors are the largest of the lizards, and are the most closely related to snakes. Indeed, in many respects, they are much more snake-like than lizard-like. They are almost invariably carnivorous, and range from Africa and southern Asia through Australasia. Over

30 species are known, the largest being Indonesia's bulky Komodo dragon, which reaches a length of 10 feet (3m) or more.

Over the past 2 years, Dr. Bohme and his colleagues have been studying the Yemen specimens to determine their systematic position. Comparative studies are being done with other monitor lizards, some of which are little known, as few museum specimens are available.

At the present time, there is little doubt that the newly found monitor represents a new species to science--which will eventually require a full description and naming--all thanks to a documentary television show, Wolfgang Bohme's keen eye, and brilliant zoological detective work by him and his colleagues.

(Editor's note: I met Dr. Bohme while attending a conference he hosted at his Museum in 1989, and, together with other visitors, I was able to see and handle the new monitor; that is when the accompanying photos were obtained by Robert Sprackland. I suddenly realized that this was the first time I had ever actually touched a living specimen of a newly discovered species--in fact, one that has not yet even been named. -- J. Richard Greenwell.)

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

This newsletter issue--which is several months late--is the last one for 1989, and it is now time to renew memberships for 1990 (the first 1990 newsletter is in production). Members are urged to use the enclosed renewal-return envelope for this purpose, as it makes renewal processing much simpler and quicker, as well as less error-prone. We have found in the past that almost all processing errors have been due to this return envelope not having been used when renewing.

As we enter a new decade--and see the approach of the end of the 20th century--it might be a good time to review briefly what has transpired in cryptozoology since the Society's founding in 1982. I am often asked: "What discoveries have been made since the Society was formed?"--as if the Society were somehow responsible for the discovery (or non-discovery) of such cryptids.

In reality, of course, the Society is not responsible for any discoveries at all. Such

discoveries are made by individuals--who may or may not be members of the Society. Certainly, the Society has a role in stimulating the search for unverified animals, although, very often, actual discoveries are made more by chance than by design. In other words, because of the nature of probability, a Sasquatch is more likely to be hit by a truckdriver who is not looking for it than shot by a hunter who is.

Even so, the 1980's have not been without some progress in cryptozoological discovery. Not counting the dozens, if not hun-



dreds, of new vertebrate species which have been routinely collected and described in the zoological literature in the 1980's, the discoveries of particular interest to us have been: the yellow-fronted garden-bowerbird, rediscovered in New Guinea; the kouprey, a wild bovid, rediscovered in the Cambodia-Thailand border area; the Ri of New Ireland, "discovered" and found to be the Indo-Pacific dugong, essentially closing the file on one cryptid; the legendary Mexican Onza, a large cat, a specimen of which was obtained, although its taxonomic status is still unresolved; the ivory-billed woodpecker, rediscovered in Cuba; the giant gecko, discovered in a French museum--with searches now under way for possible living specimens in New Zealand; the thin-spined porcupine, rediscovered in Brazil. A new species of monitor lizard was sought and discovered in Yemen after an ISC member noted it in a television documentary (see separate article, this issue).

The lowland gorilla, rediscovered in Nigeria; a giant, black tree-kangaroo, discovered in New Guinea--a complete specimen is still not at hand; two more megamouth sharks--the second and third specimens--found off California and

western Australia; a new muntjak deer discovered in China; the serpent eagle rediscovered in Madagascar; two new lemur species discovered in Madagascar; the hairy-eared dwarf lemur, rediscovered in Madagascar; a new cat species discovered on the Japanese island of Tshushima; the Javan rhino, rediscovered in Vietnam; and, very recently, the controversial pygmy elephant of Africa--usually thought of as a juvenile or a forest runt--elevated to a full species of its own. Interestingly, seven of these finds have involved ISC members.

As some negativists will be happy to point out, none of these discoveries have involved dinosaurs or "ape-men." That is true, but there is far more to cryptozoology than Nessies, dinosaurs, and Bigfeet. While the discovery of such cryptids would be both very dramatic and scientifically important, we should not let them dominate our thinking. Cryptozoology has developed sound theoretical frameworks, as well as specific parameters delineating what it encompasses, and while the media and the public have created mental stereotypes of the kinds of animals they think are involved, ISC members know that, in reality, cryptozoology involves considerably more.

In fact, if the Bigfeet and the Nessies were found in the end to be spurious, there is still plenty more within cryptozoology to keep many people--those endowed with a keen curiosity, an interest in natural history, and a spirit of adventure--quite busy for a long time to come.

Meanwhile, I would like to encourage all members to continue supporting the Society, and the best way to do this is to renew promptly, and, if possible, to add a donation. We have still not been able to reach the 1,000-member goal, so added donations continue to be critical for the Society's continued existence. All such donations, however small, are very much appreciated. It also helps to cut down on time, energy, and costs when members renew promptly, upon noting the renewal-return envelope, thus avoiding the need to mail subsequent reminder notices.

Happy hunting to all in the 1990's, whether it be in deserts or forests, lakes or oceans, or museums or archives--or even one's own library or garden.

J. Richard Greenwell  
Editor

## RENEWAL INFORMATION

With this last 1989 newsletter, membership renewals are due for 1990. The membership fee for 1990 remains unchanged at US\$30 or £18. This includes the receipt of four 1990 newsletters and one journal (Vol. 9).

Members are specifically asked to use the enclosed renewal-return envelope, which facilitates the renewal process at the Secretariat and reduces processing errors.

Payments should be in US\$, Canadian \$ (at the existing exchange rate), or £ sterling.

Payments may be made by personal check or by money order. International payments may be made by international postal money order or international bank draft; in the latter case, checks must be drawn against U.S. banks. European members may, if they wish, renew through the European Secretariat.

Members are urged to add a donation, even a small one, if possible. All such donations (tax deductible for U.S. members) automatically make the donors Sustaining Members for 1990, and the donations are

matched equally by a Benefactor, thus doubling the Sustaining Member's original contribution.

In short, prompt renewals with added donations make a big difference to the Society. The continued support of the membership in this regard would be very much appreciated. □

"Truth is whatever is in the end delivered to the community of enquirers who pursue a certain end in a certain way."

Ian Hacking  
"Lakatos' Philosophy of Science" in Scientific Revolutions (Ian Hacking, ed.)  
Oxford University Press, 1981



## SUSTAINING MEMBERS, 1989

We are pleased to announce that 128 members availed themselves of the opportunity to become Sustaining Members for 1989 by contributing amounts higher than the required \$30 (or £18) membership dues. All such donations were matched, dollar for dollar, by a Society Benefactor (who prefers to remain anonymous to the general membership). Thus, the income generated by donations from Sustaining Members was automatically doubled.

While the number of 1989 Sustaining Members is 28 less than the 156 recorded for 1988, the drop, after a climb of several years, can probably be attributed to the Society's first-ever dues increase, from \$25 to \$30 (or £15 to £18): some members who usually added \$5 to the old \$25 dues when renewing probably failed to do so when the \$5 increase was implemented. The high number of Sustaining Members still reflects a strong membership support for the Society, and the number will probably increase again when the effects of the dues increase dissipates.

Total 1989 paying membership in the Society came to almost exactly 800, 60 less than in 1988. Following consultation with marketing experts, it has been determined that this drop can be attributed, again, to the dues increase.

Thus, the increased income from higher dues was partly lost by a drop in membership. While this is a normal expectation in commercial marketing strategies -- in general, the higher the cost of a product, the lower the unit sales -- the effect is expected to disappear as new members are enrolled.

In the meantime, the support of Sustaining Members continues to be vital. Such voluntary donations, and further contributions from Benefactors, close the gap between annual income and expenses.

As stated in the Winter, 1988, Newsletter, the listing of 1989 Sustaining Members will be broken down into three categories: Category 1 lists those members who donated up to \$29 above the \$30 membership fee (total up to \$59); Category 2 lists those who donated between \$30 and \$99 (total up to \$129); Category 3 lists those who donated \$100 or more (total at least \$130).

Category 1 includes 103 members, Category 2, 20 members, and Category 3, 5 members. The main reason for the drop in Category 2, which included 40 members in 1988, can, again, be attributed to the dues increase. For example, a 1988 member who paid \$50, including a \$25 donation, would have been listed in Category 2; in 1989, however, such a \$50 payment would include only a \$20 donation, and it would thus rank in Category 1.

In 1988, a gift ISC pocket calendar was sent to all members in Categories 2 and 3; due to financial uncertainties, the gift calendars were not produced in 1989, but the concept may be reintroduced in the future.

For reporting purposes, joint members are counted as one. In cases involving receipt of foreign currency, the listing reflects the amounts credited to the Society after bank conversion charges. Also, the listing includes only those members who donated in--or for--1989. It does not include members who may have already donated for 1990.

### Category 1

Victor Albert, Robert Ash, Greg Aten, Ronald Banister, Aaron Bauer, Wally Bellows, Joseph Bender, Daniel Bloch, Christian Boudeau, James Brewer, Bill Broyles & Joan Scott, Stephen Castleman, Wayne Cermak, Loren Coleman, Curtis Cook, Darryl Coon, Walter Coulson, Peter Crall, Wilson Crone, Paul Cropper, Bruno de Rossi, Robert Dietz, Franziska Dokter, Hilary Evans, Jean-Francois Ferrary, J.O. Gelderloos, Gary Gieseke, Daniel Gilbert, David Gipson, Shirley Gipson, Wesley & Mrs. Gordeuk, John Heckman, Jim Hewkin, William Higbee, Richard Hobbs, John Howarth, Geoffrey Hunt, Keith Hunter,

James Jeffery, Michael Johnson, Woodson Johnson, Sean Johnson, Robert & Norma Kiefer, John Kirk & John Kirk Jr., Peter Kirkham, Gia Koontz. Lory Lazarus, Nicolas Le Souef, Lorna Lloyd, C.E. Loader, Albert Lopez, Daniel Lyons, Glen McClelland, James McCleod, Michael McGovern, Roy Mackal, John Maliwacki, David Mandley, Gary Mangiacopra, Michael & Rebecca Manyak, Dirk Mattheisen, Adrienne Mayor, Garyl Miller, Marc Miller, Charles Minderhout, Dominique Naudo, G.L. Payne, Jean Palesi, Maurizio Pettinelli, James Powell, Michael Pugliese.

Peter Rae, Andrew Ragan, Michel Raynal, Herman Reichenbach, Harry Reinshagen, Bruce & Jannie Rivera, Rocco Romeo, Al Romero, Ronald Rosenblatt, Adam Rowen, A.J. Ruigrok, Gabriel Sanchez, Earl Scarr, John Scheel, Michael Shields, Donna Stucky, Curt Sutherly, Joe Swatek, Tokuharu Takabayashi, Robert Takaroff, Charles Thomas, Gavin Troster, Anders Tullberg, Rich Unsbee, Henry Van Epp, John Van Mater, Gilbert Wald, Merrick Walton, Jerry Wasserman, Osamu Watanabe, Brent Wilcox, Thomas Williams, Joseph Zarzynski & Pat Meaney.



Category 2

Mark Angelcyk, William Dragovan, Russell Gebhart, Dan Gettinger, Dennis Glavin, Ralph Hare, Richard Heiden, Peter Jaszi, Lawrence Kubacki II, Sterling Lanier, Paul LeBlond & Annette Shaw, Alain Mahurier, Vladimir Markotic, Robert Moy, Shinichiro Namiki, Michael Playfair, Peter Pranis, Ennio Scannapieco, Ted Straiton, Thomas Wilkinson, Forrest Wood.

Category 3

Bruce & Beverly Burgess, Alex Downs III, Marion Hebner, Paul McCarthy, Hugh Trotti.

The Society is particularly indebted to Benefactors Gus Buder, Robert Dorion, and Bette Wolfskill, and the Academy of Applied Science, for further 1989 support.

The goal of the Society continues to be the attainment of the elusive 1,000 members--and 200 Sustaining Members. Time has proven this to be a difficult goal indeed, but we will keep trying.

For 1990, we again encourage all members to add a little something when renewing--even \$5 makes a difference. Those who may have already renewed can, of course, send in an extra donation at any time during the year (up to February 28, 1991) for their 1990 membership to be upgraded to Sustaining Member status. Also, American members are reminded that the Society has a tax-exempt status with the IRS, and donations are thus deductible. The Tax Identification No. is 94-2915129.

As with 1989, our anonymous Benefactor will match all 1990

donations. Thus, when a member sends a donation of, say, \$30, he or she is actually responsible for producing an extra \$60 for the Society. It is hoped by both the Secretariat and the Benefactor involved that this will encourage more members to voluntarily support their Society. It can be stated quite bluntly that, if members and Benefactors don't do this, nobody else will.

The 1990 Sustaining Member categories will remain unchanged --Category 1, donations up to \$29; Category 2, donations between \$30 and \$99; and Category 3, donations of \$100 or more. Any member who would like to become a Benefactor (requiring a one-time payment of \$1,000 or more) should contact the Secretariat. The Benefactor status includes a life membership. □

## BRITISH COLUMBIA CRYPTOZOOLOGY CLUB

Several cryptozoological investigators in Canada's province of British Columbia have recently banded together to form the British Columbia Cryptozoology Club (BCCC).

The founding meeting took place at Simon Fraser University, at Burnaby (a Vancouver suburb) on May 24, 1989, with ISC members Paul LeBlond and James Clark as co-founders. Fifteen persons initially joined. By September, membership had increased to 35, and the club had held several meetings and produced three newsletters.

ISC itself does not have regional or country chapters, but the ISC Board welcomes the establishment of local cryptozoology groups, and will encourage and support those which follow a similar philosophy. It should be emphasized, however, that, although the officers of such independent societies may be ISC members, the societies themselves are not officially

linked to ISC, and they are solely responsible for their own positions and actions.

Besides the new British Columbia club, two other such groups have been established, one in the Soviet Union, known as the Association of Cryptozoologists (see Newsletter, Autumn, 1988), and one in the American state of Idaho known as the North Idaho College Cryptozoology Club (see Newsletter, Spring, 1985), which is inactive at the present time.

The president of BCCC is Paul LeBlond, an oceanographer at the University of British Columbia, who is also an ISC Board member. John Kirk serves as vice president, and the founding secretary was James Clark, who tragically died on September 3. The new secretary is Kathy Gorkoff. The Club has already undertaken fieldwork, and further expeditions are planned.

The vast, rugged, and also beautiful province of British

Columbia is the perfect setting for a local cryptozoology group. Indeed, British Columbia has sometimes been called the cryptozoological center of the world. From the coastal waters come many reports of "sea serpents," including the historical Cadborosaurus (or Caddy). In the interior, there are many supposed "monster" lakes, the most well-known being Okanagan Lake, home of the famous Ogopogo. And if all this were not enough, Sasquatch (Bigfoot) is thought to roam all over the place. Two of the most knowledgeable people on the Sasquatch problem, John Green and Bob Titmus, also live in British Columbia.

Our best wishes go to the British Columbia Cryptozoology Club and its future activities. ISC members interested in joining should contact: Dr. Paul LeBlond, Head, Department of Oceanography, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6T 1W5 (Tel. 604/228-2482, office; 224-6306, home). □



## SIR PETER SCOTT, 1909-1989

The Editor regrets to announce the death of renowned artist and ornithologist Sir Peter Scott, who was also considered the leader of the world's wildlife conservation movement.

Sir Peter, who was elected an Honorary Member of the Society at its founding in 1982 due to his involvement with Loch Ness research, died of a heart attack on August 29, 1989, two weeks before what would have been his 80th birthday. Despite his many other accomplishments, he always listed himself as an artist first, and an ornithologist second.

Peter Scott was 2 years old when his father, Captain Robert Falcon Scott, together with his companions, died of exposure in the Antarctic in 1912, after reaching the South Pole for the second time in history--losing the race to the Norwegian Amundsen. Young Peter grew up in the shadow of his hero-father, but eventually he carved his own niche in life. He attended Cambridge University, became

Britain's glider pilot champion, and won a yachting bronze medal at Hitler's 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin. He also became an avid duck hunter and gained a reputation as a wildlife artist.

During the war, he served with distinction in the Royal Navy, seeing combat in gunboats and destroyers. He attained the rank of commander, twice receiving the Distinguished Service Cross, and was made a Member of the British Empire.

It was shortly after the war that an incident occurred which was to change his life forever. He shot but failed to kill a goose, which fell in an inaccessible, marshy area. It was still alive the next day, and the trauma of the event influenced him to the point that he determined from then on to become a protector rather than a destroyer of wildlife.

He established the Wildfowl Trust on the Severn River, which became his permanent home, and which has served as a refuge for many migrating species. In 1961,

he spearheaded the founding of the World Wildlife Fund (now the World Wide Fund for Nature), serving as its founding chairman and then vice-president for 21 years, and designing its famous giant panda logo--having helped launch the panda conservation program in China.

Sir Peter was also closely involved with numerous other conservation organizations, particularly the Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, and he created the IUCN Red Data Books. Until his death, he also served as president of Britain's Fauna and Flora Preservation Society. Knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 1973--the first to receive a knighthood for work in conservation--he was the author and illustrator of 18 books on natural history; he also illustrated 20 books by other authors.

His interest in Nessie began in 1958, and in 1962 he was one of the founding board members of the Loch Ness Investigation Bureau, together with David James, Richard Fitter, and Constance Whyte. He watched from lakeside, dived into the loch, and flew over it silently in a glider, but had no sightings.

It was in 1975 that Sir Peter and Robert Rines co-authored an article in *Nature* called "Naming the Loch Ness Monster" (Vol. 258:466-68, December 11). Although a scientific description could not be included, the article gave Nessie a formal scientific name, *Nessiteras rhombopteryx* ("the Ness wonder with the diamond-shaped fin"), so that the presumed beast could fall under the protection of the new Wild Creatures Act. The scientific naming, based on the Academy of Applied Science's 1972 underwater flipper photos, created a worldwide sensation--and considerable controversy.

Although the naming was not based on a specimen, or even a part of one, Scott and Rines



Sir Peter Scott. "An artist first, and an ornithologist second." (World Wide Fund for Nature.)



pointed out that the rules of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature do, in fact, permit a scientific description based on an illustration. Sir Peter was the subject of considerable criticism--and damage to his reputation--over the article. There were even hints of hoax when some British journalists pointed out that an anagram of Nessiteras rhombopteryx reads "monster hoax by Sir Peter S." As always, he endured the controversy with determination and grace.

Speaking before a special

symposium on the subject in Parliament, he stated that "the underwater pictures leave no further doubt in mind that large animals exist in Loch Ness." He later went even further when he wrote that, "although it may be difficult to believe in the existence of large animals in Loch Ness, this became, for me, the only possible conclusion... Although it must be pure speculation, the available evidence seems to suggest that the animals may belong to the Sub-Class Synaptosaura and to the Order Sauropterygia. The most likely Sub-Order might be Plesio-

sauria."

Unfortunately, like other Nessie proponents before him, in recent times most notably David James and Tim Dinsdale, he did not live to see his ideas confirmed.

Sir Peter Scott was known as a gentle and considerate man, but one who also had, according to Sir David Attenborough, "a determination of steel." His loss will be sorely felt throughout the world of both wildlife conservation and cryptozoology. □

## GUILDFORD CONFERENCE: FINAL REMINDER

Members are reminded that the conference "Fabulous Beasts: Fact and Folklore," a joint meeting of the Society and Britain's Folklore Society, is to be held at the University of Surrey, in Guildford, July 19-22, 1990.

Full registration details, as well as the program up to that time, appeared in the last newsletter. Because of space limitations, these are not being printed again. Two more papers from Folklore Society members have been included:

-Veronique Campion-Vincent, CNRS, Paris, "Mystery Cats of France."

-Barbara Fess Leavy, Queens College, New York, "Animal Mates and Frog Princesses."

Members wishing to attend the conference, which represents the Society's first Membership Meeting in England, should immediately contact Dr. Roy Vickery at The Folklore Society, 12 Eastwood Street, London SW16 6PK, England, or by telephone at the British Museum (Natural History): 71/938-8897. □

## CRYPTOLETTER

To the Editor:

I thought I would bring to the attention of other ISC members the novel Bigfoot Dreams, by Francine Prose (Pantheon Books, 1986). The main character in the story writes for a newspaper of the ilk of The National Inquirer: its editorial policy is never to print anything that has a basis in reality, thereby ensuring freedom from lawsuits or other embarrassment. Our heroine--and even more her editors--are therefore bemused, and worse, to find that some of her flights of fancy seem to be based squarely on reality.

The book is really very funny, notably Prose's ability to notice and comment on everyday actions and foibles. The novel's title reflects the fact that some of the protagonist's imaginings have to do with Bigfoot, but that takes up no great part of the book. Neither do the pages that are devoted to cryptozoology and its exponents, but what Prose says is so accurate that one suspects she is either a cryptozoologist herself or has read some of the Society's publications.

Henry H. Bauer  
Department of Chemistry  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute  
and State University  
Blacksburg, Virginia, U.S.A.

## FORTHCOMING

In preparation for future newsletters are articles on the following:

\* Details on the reevaluation of the controversial pygmy elephant, which has just been elevated to a full species.

\* A synopsis on the discovery of two new lemur species--and the rediscovery of a third--in Madagascar.

\* The story of the recent discovery of the giant, black tree kangaroo in New Guinea.

\* A review of the British Big Cat situation.

\* Details of the first expedition to China in search of Wildman evidence.

\* An examination of the evidence for thylacines on mainland Australia.

\* An annotated bibliography of all cryptozoology books published since 1987.

\* And, of course, lots, lots more.

"Life is a great big canvas, and you should throw all the paint on it you can."

Danny Kaye  
American actor



## WOOD'S ANIMAL FACTS

The largest living marsupial is the red kangaroo (Macropus rufus) of the inland plains of central, southern and eastern Australia.

In one series of 426 males collected by Firth and Calaby (1969) in western New South Wales, the heaviest specimen weighed 1691b (77kg) and measured 8ft, 2in. (2.49m) along the curve of the body. The longest individual (9ft, 5in or 2.87m) only scaled 1541b (70kg), but the two researchers said it was a bigger-framed animal than the heavier example and would have weighed more if it had been in better condition.

Lengths up to 11ft (3.4m) have been claimed for this species by hunters in the past, but

the maximum size attained by this giant marsupial is probably in the region of 9ft, 6in (2.9m) (straight-line measurement c8ft, 8in or 2.64m) and 2001b (91kg). Such a boomer (old-man kangaroo), standing fully erect in a threatening posture, would be more than 7ft (2.1m) tall.

Adult females are about half the weight of adult males and rarely exceed 601b (27kg). The heaviest specimen in a series of 2,942 females scaled an exceptional 80.31b (36.4kg) and measured 6ft, 9in (2.06m) in total length.

The eastern grey kangaroo (Macropus giganteus) of the forest areas of eastern Australia averages out slightly smaller than M. rufus, but the

males of the Tasmanian race (Macropus g. tasmaniensis) are much more heavily muscled, and some of them rival the largest reds for size.

One "forester" shot in north-eastern Tasmania reportedly weighed 1801b (82kg) (total length 8ft, 8in or 2.64m), while Lydekker gives details of another outsized individual which measured 9ft, 7in (2.92m) along the curves and tipped the scales at a staggering 2001b (91kg). The preserved skin of this specimen has a "flat" length of 8ft, 2in (2.49m).

Abstracted from:

The Guinness Book of Animal Facts and Feats, by Gerald L. Wood, Guinness Superlatives, Enfield, U.K. (3rd ed.), 1982.

*Honorary Members:* Andre Capart (Belgium); Marjorie Courtenay-Latimer (South Africa); John Green (Canada); The Lord Hunt of Llanfair Waterdine (U.K.); Marie-Jeanne Koffmann (U.S.S.R.); Ingo Krumbiegel (Federal German Republic); Theodore Monod (France); Sir Peter Scott (U.K.); Robert Titmus (Canada).

*Benefactors:* G. A. Buder, III (U.S.A.); Robert C. Dorion (Guatemala); Michael T. Martin (U.S.A.); Gale J. Raymond (U.S.A.); Kurt Von Nieda (U.S.A.); Edward B. Winn (Switzerland); Bette and Joe Wolfskill (U.S.A.); Count F. C. Zedlitz (Argentina).

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